

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 FEA-01 /100 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:JEBURGESS:ML

APPROVED BY PM/ISO - GTCHURCHILL

EB/ORF/FSE - L.RAICHT

NEA/RA - R. HOBBS

ASD/ISA/NESA - R. ZWART

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R 192230Z NOV 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

INFO JCS WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 285061

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, MILI, KU, IR

SUBJECT: PERSIAN GULF SOURCE FOR JP-5 FUEL

1. IN RECENT YEARS, US NAVY CARRIER TASK GROUP OPERATIONS  
IN THE INDIAN OCEAN HAVE RELIED UPON HAVING READY ACCESS  
TO A SOURCE OF JP-5 (JET FUEL) IN THE PERSIAN GULF. DURING  
TRANSITS FROM A GULF SOURCE TO FUEL TERMINALS IN THE WESTERN  
PACIFIC, TANKERS CONTROLLED BY THE MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND  
(MSC) HAVE BEEN USED TO REPLENISH USN SHIPS DEPLOYED TO THE  
INDIAN OCEAN.

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2. THE DEFENSE FUEL SUPPLY CENTER (DFSC) HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTRACTING WORLDWIDE BULK FUEL REQUIREMENTS FOR US FORCES. UNTIL JULY 1976, DFSC HAD AN ACTIVE CONTRACT WITH A PERSIAN GULF SUPPLIER FOR JP-5. HOWEVER, BASED UPON COMPETITIVE BIDDING, DFSC AWARDED ITS MAJOR JULY 76-JUNE 77 JP-5 CONTRACT TO A COMPANY IN TAIWAN-

3. IN AN ATTEMPT TO PERPETUATE ACCESS TO THE ADVANTAGEOUS PERSIAN GULF SOURCE, DFSC MADE A SPECIAL SOLICITATION IN SEPTEMBER 76 FOR 150,000 BARRELS OF JP-5. BOTH KUWAIT NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY AND NATIONAL IRANIAN OIL COMPANY REPLIED THAT UP-5 WAS NOT AVAILABLE AND DECLINED TO BID.

4. IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE TO THE NAVY OF REESTABLISHING ITS GULF SOURCE, WE REQUEST THAT YOU PURSUE FURTHER THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING KNPC AND NIOC BID ON AN INTERIM DFSC CONTRACT TO SUPPLY 150,000 - 250,000 BARRELS OF JP-5 FOR THE PERIOD EXTENDING THROUGH JUNE 77.

5. FYI: IN ANY EVENT, DFSC'S SCHEDULED INTERNATIONAL SOLICITATION IN EARLY 1977 FOR THE JULY 77 - JUNE 78 PERIOD WILL SEEK TO INSURE A JP-5 SOURCE IN THE PERSIAN GULF. TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE, DFSC WILL NOT FEEL COMPELLED TO ACCEPT THE LOWEST BID PRESENTED IF THIS BID IS SUBMITTED BY A NON-GULF SOURCE. END FYI. KISSINGER

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